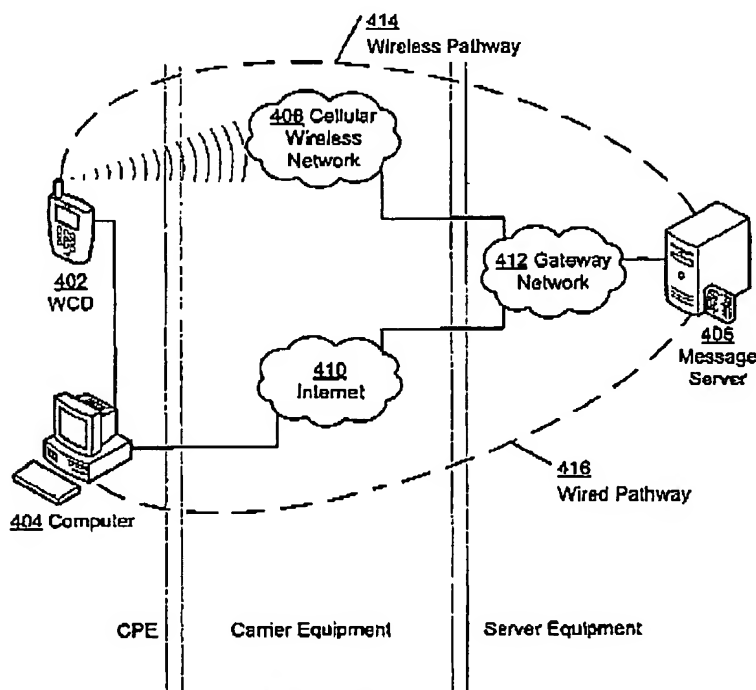


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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****JUL 19 2006**Remarks

In the Office Action mailed May 19, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,259,892 ("Helferich").

Of the pending claims, claims 1, 10, and 21 are independent and the remainder are dependent. Each pending claim is directed to a way of using an alternate communication route to receive a multimedia message. In the invention, when a wireless communication device ("WCD") receives a message-notification via its air interface (*i.e.*, cellular interface), a computer in local communication with the WCD will responsively retrieve the indicated message over an alternate network connection such as a wireline connection. An exemplary embodiment of this setup is shown in Figure 4 of the present application as reproduced below.

**FIG. 4**

Helferich is directed to a pager transceiver that alerts a user of a page, and the user may then download the entire page or otherwise act on the page at a convenient time. The cited

portions of Helferich do not provide for a computer locally connected to the pager transceiver. At best, Helfrich discloses that the network server may be accessed by a user via an alternative communication pathway, such as the Internet. However, that disclosure does not teach or even suggest any communications between the pager transceiver and any locally connected computer. Because the cited reference does not teach the claimed methods or systems, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is improper.

Each independent claim of the present application requires, in one form or another, a configuration for a WCD to receive a message-notification and then pass an indication of the message-notification to a computer locally-connected to the WCD. Further, each independent claim requires, in one form or another, a configuration for the computer to send a message-retrieval request to a message server along a communication pathway that does not include the WCD or its wireless interface.

In the example provided by Figure 4 above, the WCD may receive a message-notification via the wireless pathway and then pass that notification directly to the locally-connected computer. The locally-connected computer, in turn, may request the message from the message server using the alternative wired pathway. Depending upon the embodiment, the message may then be accessible to a user at the computer or passed from the computer directly to the WCD.

Helferich fails to provide the framework recited in the claims and shown in Figure 4. For instance, the reference does not teach a wireless device *locally connected* to a computer that is, in turn, coupled with a message server via an alternative network. Rather, Helferich discloses a pager transceiver in remote communication with a paging control system (server equipment) and that the paging control system 30 may be coupled to the Internet as an alternative communication route. Helferich, Col. 16, lines 21 – 40. In addition to lacking any communication link between

the WCD and a locally connected computer, Helferich also fails to teach any of the recited messaging schemes that occur between the WCD and the locally connected computer (or software for such messaging).

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of independent claims 1, 10, and 21, and each of their dependents.

Further, Applicant respectfully asserts that the Helferich reference does not teach many of the features recited in the dependent claims. For instance, the reference appears to have no discussion of: Multimedia-Messaging Service (claims 2, 3, 13, 14) or the CDMA air interface (claims 6 and 17 as amended). These distinctions form a secondary reason for allowance of the pending claims over Helferich.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at his office number (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

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